

Leisure Studies (Leisure Services Management)



The program in leisure studies at Oklahoma State University prepares students for careers in **leisure service management** and **therapeutic recreation**. Both undergraduate options are accredited by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). Students completing the programs are eligible to sit for national certification examinations.



The option in **Leisure Services Management** focuses on programming, leadership, administration and management of leisure services and facilities. Upon completion of this degree, the student should be prepared to enter employment in a variety of agencies and organizations serving the leisure and recreational needs of people.

Common Job Titles Career Path Settings

- Parks and Recreation Director
- Recreation Supervisor
- Camp Director
- Youth Program Director
- Recreation Programmer
- Scout Professional
- Recreation Specialist
- Aquatics Specialist
- Park Naturalist
- Inclusion Supervisor
- Recreation Facilities Supervisor
- Program Coordinator
- Public parks and recreation departments
- Nonprofit youth organizations
- Commercial recreation
- Corporate/Employee recreation
- Outdoor recreation
- Organized camping
- Military recreation
- State and National Parks
- Campus recreation



Salary and Job Outlook

Those working in parks, recreation, and leisure services have opportunities for career full-time, seasonal, and part-time employment. As a full-time employee, the mid-range for annual earnings ranged from \$26,000 to \$52,000 depending on the specific area of the field. Earnings of directorial, supervisory, and managerial positions are substantially higher.

Across the board, from entry-level to top-level positions, the salary average is \$61,500. Employment and advancement opportunities are expected to grow in the coming years.

*U.S. Department of Labor - Occupational Employment Statistics 2008
 Recreation Management - Salary Survey 2008*



Learn more about **Leisure Services Management** by visiting these websites...

Job Description / Occupational Outlook Handbook
<http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos058.htm>

Jobs in Cool Places...
<http://www.cooljobs.com>

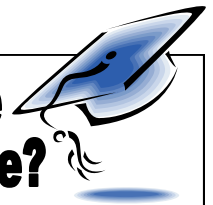
Links to Outdoor Recreation research and issues
Dr. Yu-Fai Leung, North Carolina State University
<http://www4.ncsu.edu/~leung/recres.html>

National Park Service - U.S. Dept. of the Interior
<http://www.nps.gov/gettinginvolved/index.htm>

Cruise Ship Employment
<http://www.shipjobs.com>



Will you be marketable when you graduate?



Leisure Studies majors develop a variety of skills and knowledge through academic coursework and internships. Consider the following to add to your marketability.

Investigate and research your career path

As you choose activities and experiences to participate in during college consider what skills and abilities you might develop. To see a detailed list of what skills are need for leisure services professions visit the Occupational Information Network (O*NET®) website at
<http://online.onetcenter.org/link/summary/39-9032.00>
<http://online.onetcenter.org/link/summary/11-9151.00>
...or to explore other leisure services professions...
<http://online.onetcenter.org/link/summary/29-1125.00>

Get involved in clubs and organizations

Leisure Majors Club

This club hosts educational workshops, assists members with professional conference expenses, and provides opportunities to socialize.

Oklahoma Recreation and Park Society

Hosts an annual conference with education sessions, invited speakers and networking

National Recreation and Park Association has a student branch, hosts an annual conference with education sessions, enormous exhibit hall, and endless opportunities to network with professionals.

Gain relevant experience

Part-time jobs, volunteer experiences or summer jobs can all be great opportunities to build skills relevant to your career goals. Keep this in mind as you select your activities.

Visit your Career Services office!

Get help with resume development; job search assistance; career research resources; and preparation for the transition from school to work.

To make an appointment call 744-6350
or email careersuccess@okstate.edu

Professional Organizations

American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance
<http://www.aahperd.org/>

American Camp Association
<http://www.acacamps.org>

Employee Services Management Association (ESM)
*Formerly known as
the National Industrial Recreation Association*
<http://www.esmassn.org/>

National Intramural Recreational Sports Association
<http://www.nirsa.org>

National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA)
<http://www.nrpa.org>

Resort and Commercial Recreation Association
<http://www.rcra.org>



For more information about Leisure Studies at Oklahoma State University visit...

www.okstate.edu/education/sahp/leisure

Check out "Careers in Recreation" under "Links"

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
Leisure Studies

